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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of  
OGAWA et al.

Atty. Ref.: 1417-305

Serial No. 09/532,024

TC/A.U.: 1761

Filed: March 21, 2000

Examiner: Mai

For: MILK BEVERAGE

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**RECEIVED**

August 11, 2004 **AUG 13 2004**

**TC 1700**

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Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

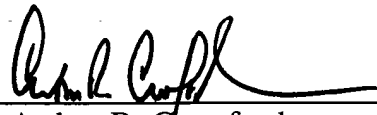
Attention is invited to the attached copy of an Official Action (English translation) issued on January 20, 2004 in the Japanese counterpart of the subject application as are copies of the four Japanese patent documents (with English translations) cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

Respectfully submitted,

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